

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

OIC-02 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /133 W

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P R 011456Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6088

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 7486

BANGKOK PASS MIKE SMITH AND TEXTILE DEL

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT ETRD UK

SUBJ: TEXTILES: UK LICENSING SYSTEM

REF: BANGKOK 20670

1. UK LICENSING SYSTEM WILL NOT RPT NOT BE DISCUSSED AT UPCOMING TSB SESSION. TSB DECIDED AT LAST SESSION TO DEFER DISCUSSION VARIOUS NATIONAL LICENSING SYSTEMS UNTIL INFO REQUESTED BY TSB RECEIVED FROM ALL MFA PARTICIPANTS APPLYING SUCH SYSTEMS.

2. RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT BY UK SUSPENDING LICENSING CERTAIN TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM KOREA AND TAIWAN WAS TAKEN TO GIVE PRACTICAL EFFECT TO EC'S ARTICLE 3:6 ACTION AGAINST IMPORTS CERTAIN KOREAN TEXTILE AND SIMILAR UNILATERAL ACTION AGAINST CERTAIN TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM TAIWAN. ACCORDING LOCAL SOURCES, UK AUTHORITIES NOTED THAT APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSES IMPORT AFFECTED ITEMS INTO UK FROM MOREA AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAIWAN ALREADY EXCEDED LEVELS (APPLICABLE TO UK) IN QUOTAS SET

IN EC'S UNILATERAL ACTIONS AGAINST KORA AND TAIWAN.

3. QUESTION OF PERMISSABILITY UNDER MFA WILL NOT ARISE UNTIL TSB EXAMINES AND RULES ON C'S ART. 3:6 ACTION AGAINST KOREA (ANY ACTION TAKEN AGAINST TAIWAN, A NON-PARTICIPANT, IS PERMISSIBLE). IF TSB FINDS EC ACTION AGAINST KOREA UNJUSTIFIED (HIGHLY LIKELY) AND THEREFORE NOT PERMISSIBLE UNDER MFA, THEN UK'S SUBORDINATE ACTION IS ALSO NOT PERMISSIBLE.

4. AS LONG AS UK LICENSING SYSTEM IS OPERATED (AS UK AUTHORITIES SAY) FOR "STATISTICAL CONTROL" ONLY IT IS CLEARLY PERMISSIBLE UNDER MFA. HOWEVER, IF IT CAN BE SHOWN IN COURSE TSB INVESTIGATION THAT ANY SUCH SYSTEM (INCLUDING UK'S) OPERATES TO RESTRAIN IMPORTS, THAT SYSTEM WOULD BE AN EVASION OF SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE MFA AND, THEREFORE, NOT PERMISSIBLE. IN SUCH CASES, EXPORTING COUNTRIES WOULD CERTAINLY PROTEST.DALE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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06 JUL 2006

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